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## BOOK REVIEWS

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CHANCERY FORMS AND PRECEDENTS. Annotated with Reference to the Practice in Michigan. By Francis A. Stace, of the Grand Rapids Bar. Detroit, Mich.: Drake Law Book Company, 1908, pp. xxxix, 742.

There is scarcely a book in a lawyer's library more important than a good book of pleading forms. The legal mind seems to be peculiarly subject to the power of precedent, and the credulity with which even respectable lawyers assume and rely upon the correctness of commonly used pleading forms is astonishing. A clear and palpable blunder in a precedent will be copied by nine-tenths of the members of the bar who use the book, until it becomes an established custom, in spite of repeated decisions of the supreme court pointing out the error. This being so, a good book of forms, adapted to the varying exigencies of general practice, carefully prepared and closely edited, is a most useful thing—useful in itself and doubly useful because it will probably save the owner from depending upon a worse book.

It may be there are errors in the book under review,—it would be strange if there were not, but a perusal of its forms will convince one that it is a distinct and valuable addition to the facilities available to the legal practitioner. The forms are numerous and are well selected. They are carefully prepared and attractively printed. They cover a remarkably wide range, including the different parts of a bill in equity, a large number of original bills and petitions, bills and petitions not original, orders, notices, affidavits, etc., in proceedings for appearance, forms for taking bills as confessed, defences and the orders, affidavits, motions, etc., incident thereto, amendments, cross-bills, forms incident to all the proceedings relative to receivers, injunctions and writs of *ne exeat*, forms used in proceedings to a decree, decrees and proceedings therein, and a host of miscellaneous forms. Indeed, there is almost no form which could be desired in connection with any matter within the jurisdiction of a court of chancery, which cannot be found here. The annotations are almost negligible, but as a book of forms, supplemental to the works on equity pleading, it is excellent.

E. R. S.

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HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF SALES. Second edition, revised. By Francis B. Tiffany. St. Paul: West Publishing Co., 1908, pp. x, 534.

The first edition of this work was an admirable book of its type. It presented clearly and concisely the cardinal principles of the law of sales. The present edition is a genuine revision, containing much additional matter and the citation of many cases decided since 1895, the date of the first edition. The book is neither a commentary nor an exhaustive treatise; nor does the author dwell much upon the historical development of the subject, or give us much of his opinion as to the soundness of the existing body of sales law. However, as the book is frankly called a "hand-book," it is not to be